

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTO 05501 171224Z

46

ACTION SNM-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 HEW-02 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07

IO-10 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-03

OMB-01 SS-15 L-03 DODE-00 AID-05 VO-03 SCA-01 /070 W

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R 162102Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5567

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTO DOMINGO 5501

FOR AMBASSADOR VANCE AND DEPUTY ASST SECRETARY LUERS FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, DR

SUBJECT: WHITE PAPER ON DRUG ABUSE

REFS: STATE 292160 AND 292161

1. THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC IS FORTUNATE IN THAT SO FAR IT HAS NEITHER A SERIOUS DRUG PROBLEM NOR HAS IT BECOME A SIGNIFICANT TRANSSHIPMENT POINT FOR NARCOTICS. SOME MARIJUANA, WHICH IS PROMPTLY DESTROYED, HAS BEEN FOUND GROWING IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE COUNTRY, AND SMALL AMOUNTS OF MARIJUANA ARE PERIODICALLY FOUND ON INTERNATIONAL TRAVELERS. THE CHIEF OF THE NATIONAL POLICE, NEIT NIVAR, IS A TOUGH-MINDED ARMY GENERAL STILL ON ACTIVE SERVICE WHO HAS BEEN DILIGENT IN COMBATTING NARCOTICS. POLICE OFFICERS IN THE POLICE'S NARCOTICS DIVISION HAVE BEEN EXTREMELY COOPERATIVE WITH THE U.S. AND WITH INTERPOL.

2. THIS BEING THE CASE, THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS ON AMBASSADOR BREWSTER'S VERY THOUGHTFUL OBSERVATIONS ARE PROMPTED MORE FROM MY EXPERINECE AND OBSERVATIONS ELSEWHERE THAN FROM EXPERIENCE IN THIS COUNTRY.

3. I AGREE THAT EMPHASIS IN THE WHITE PAPER ON DEMONAD REDUCTION SHOULD BE HELPFUL IN OUR DEALINGS WITH LATIN-AMERICAN GOVERNMENTS.

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WE CAN EXPECT LESS COOPERATION FROM THE LATIN AMERICANS IF THE IDEA GAINS GREATER CURRENCY THAT WE ARE URGING MORE EFFORT ON

THEIR PART WHEN WE OURSELVES ARE NOT DOING ALL POSSIBLE DOMESTICALLY TO COMBAT NARCOTICS USE.

4. CONCERNING MARIJUANA, WE HAVE SUCH AN OPEN SOCIETY THAT WE WOULD SHORTLY RUN INTO A CREDIBILITY GAP IF WE DID NOT REPEAT NOT TELL IT THE WAY IT IS, NAMELY, THAT WITH LIMITED RESOURCES, WE WILL ATTEMPT TO CONCENTRATE ON THE MORE SERIOUS ASPECT OF THE PROBLEM BUT WILL CONTINUE VIGOROUS LAW ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS AGAINST MAJOR TRAFFICKERS OF MARIJUANA AS WE CONCENTRATE MORE ON THE HARD DRUGS.

5. I AGREE THAT WE MIGHT REVIEW OUR PROGRAM FOR GREATER INCENTIVES AND AWARDS TO HOST COUNTRY OFFICIALS. FORTUNATELY, WITHIN THE DOMINICCAN REPUBLIC WE HAVE NOT RPT NOT ARRIVED AT THE POINT WHERE SUCH WOULD BE NECESSARY, BUT I SHOULD IMAGINE THIS COULD BE USEFUL IN OTHER LATIN-AMERICAN COUNTRIES.

6. I ALSO AGREE THAT IT WOULD BE WORTHWHILE FOR MISSIONS TO BE INFORMED WHEN NATIONALS OF THE COUNTRY THEY ARE ACCREDITED TO ARE ARRESTED IN THE U.S. ON NARCOTIC CHARGES. WE HAVE FOUND IT USEFUL AT THIS MISSION TO PUBLICIZE VISA FRAUD AND OTHER ASPECTS OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION, AND IT WOULD SERVE OUR PURPOSES TO PUBLICIZE NARCOTIC ARRESTS AS WELL.

7. DEA AND U.S. CUSTOMS OFFICES IN SAN JUAN AND MIAMI ARE CLOSE ENOUGH TO THE D.R. TO MEET REQUIREMENTS HERE THROUGH THEIR AGENTS' VISITS FROM TIME TO TIME.
HURWITCH

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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